

Melissa Villa-Nicholas

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Graduate School of Library and Information Studies
University of Rhode Island
GSLIS, 94 West Alumni Ave
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Education

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| PhD | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, August 2016
Major Field: Library and Information Science |
| M.A. | University of Wisconsin-Madison, August 2012
Major Field: Library and Information Science |
| M.A. | Claremont Graduate University, August 2010
Major Field: Cultural Studies, Latina/o Studies |
| B.A. | Azusa Pacific University, December 2005
Major Fields: Global Studies, American Literature |

Appointments

Assistant Professor, GSLIS, URI	August 2017
Lecturer, Graduate School of Library and Information Studies University of Rhode Island	August 2016-June 2017

Publications

Velez, L. and Villa-Nicholas, M. (Spring 2017) "The Evolution of Critical Theories in Library History Literature, 1997-2015." *Library Trends*.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (Spring 2017) "Ruptures in Telecommunications: Latina and Latino Information Workers in Southern California." *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (Fall 2015) "Latina/o Librarian Technological Engagements: REFORMA in the Digital Age." *Latino Studies*. 13.4.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (Winter 2014) "Latina Narratives of Information Technologies: Towards a Critical Latina Technology Studies." *Media-N*. 10:3

Invited Book Chapter

Villa-Nicholas, M. (March 2016). "The Invisible Information Worker: Latinas in Telecommunications." In *The Intersectional Internet: Race, Sex, Class and Culture Online*,

edited by André Brock, Safiya Noble, and Brendesha Tynes. In preparation for Peter Lang as part of the Digital Editions series.

Forthcoming

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2018). “Discerning Fake Information.” *Teaching Media Quarterly*.

Villa-Nicholas, M., Drake, T., and Tidline, T. (2018) “Healing Justice: An Approach of Caring for Intersectional LIS Professionals.” McFarland Press.

Under Review

Villa-Nicholas, M. “*Terror by Telephone: Normative Anxieties around Obscene Calls in the 1960s.*” *First Monday*.

Villa-Nicholas, M. “Correlated Normativity in the Era of Big Data.” *Journal of Critical Library and Information Studies*.

Articles in Preparation

Sweeney, M and Villa-Nicholas, M. ““I am so Versatile- I can be Used for just about Everything”: Race, Gender, and the Perfect Digital Latina Laborer.”

Scholarly Honors and Awards

High Impact Teaching Seminar	2017
HASTAC Scholar	2012- 2016
Gender and Women’s Studies Smalley Fellowship, UIUC	2015
I3 Schools PhD Teaching Fellow, University of Pittsburgh	2014
Verdell Frazier Young Award, Women’s Resource Center, UIUC	2013-2014
REFORMA Scholar	2011
UW-Madison SLIS Department Diane Hopkins Award	2011
Advanced Opportunity Fellowship at UW Madison	2010-2011

Invited Speaker

“Latina Information Workers in Telecommunications.” (March 2017). *Special Interest Group for Computers, Information and Society*. The Computer History Museum.

Colloquia Speaker Series. (February 2016). “Latina Information Workers in Telecommunications: Intersectional Experiences in the Bell System.” Department of Information Studies, University of California Los-Angeles.

The Barbara and Donald Smalley Lecture. (April 2015). "Latina Information Workers in Telecommunications: Intersectional Experiences in the Bell System." Department of Gender and Women's Studies, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Conference Papers, Research Talks & Presentations

Panel presentation. (March 2017). Push Comes to Shove: Supporting Patrons of Color in Your Institution. *Public Library Association*.

Paper presentation. (September 2017) "'I am so Versatile- I can be Used for just about Everything": Race, Gender, and the Perfect Digital Latina Laborer." *Society for the Study of Social Science*.

Poster. (January 2017). The Evolution of Critical Theories in Library History Literature, 1997-2015. *ALISE*.

Panel presentation. (March 2015). "Pipelines and pathways into the information professions." *iConference*. Newport Beach, California.

Paper presentation. (May 2014). "Neoliberal Intimacies: Latina/o information workers." *Gender, Bodies, Technologies Conference*. Blacksburg, VA.

Panel presentation. (February 2014). "Social Justice in LIS." *iConference*. Berlin, Germany.

Panel presentation. (September 2013). "The Development of the Distributed Open Collaborative Courses (DOCCs)." *Information Technology and Africa: Practices, Potentials and Challenges*. Urbana, IL.

Panel presentation. (May 2013). "Back to the Future! Adelante: A historical account of REFORMA in the digital age." *History and Theory Conference: Responding to Crisis*. Irvine, CA.

Panel presentation. (April 2013). "Nostalgic Reflections: Producing citizenship with archival social media." *HASTAC*. Toronto, Canada.

Paper presentation. (September 2012). "From the anti-apartheid movement to the Madison occupation: Representing dissent in the digital world." *Protest on the Page: Print Culture History in Opposition to Almost Anything*. Madison, WI.

Poster. (April 2012). "A Collaborative Story: Librarians and Activists Partnering To Preserve Local History." *Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians*, Lake Geneva, WI.

Panel presentation. (November 2011). "LIS Access Midwest Program." *Wisconsin Library Association*, Milwaukee, WI.

Teaching

Searching for Answers: Meeting Users' Information Needs. (Graduate: Hybrid online). GSLIS, URI.

Multiculturalism in Libraries. (Graduate: Asynchronous). GSLIS, URI.

Introduction to Information Science and Technologies. (Graduate: Hybrid). GSLIS, URI.

Humanities Information and Materials. (Graduate: Hybrid). GSLIS, URI.

Document, Assess, and Evaluate. GSLIS, URI. (Graduate: Online)

Research Methods & Design. I3 Institute. School of Information Sciences. University of Pittsburgh. (Undergraduate: on-campus)

Race, Gender, and Information Technologies. iSchool, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. (Undergraduate: on-campus)

Invited Lectures

Latinas in Information Labor. (May 2017). UCLA iSchool Doctoral Seminar

“Modern Librarianship.” (September 2016). Student ALA Lecture Series. University of Rhode Island

“How to Read and Write for Grad School.” Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. (Graduate: Online)

Scholarly Research Grants and Fellowships

The Barbara and Donald Smalley Fellowship Department of Gender and Women's Studies, UIUC	2015
I3 institute Doctoral Fellow, University of Pittsburgh, School of Library and Information Science	2014
Co-Principal Investigator of the History of Latinas in Telecommunications, Reece Fund Travel Grant from GSLIS	2013
Gender and Women's Studies Travel Grant for HASTAC Conference	2013
Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC) Scholar	2012-2015
Cultural Studies Financial Fellowship, Claremont Graduate University	2007-2009

Urban Community Scholars, Department of Urban Planning, UCLA 2007

Professional Development

High Impact Teaching Seminar, URI 2017
Office for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning training 2016

Reviewer

Journal of Community Informatics (JoCI)
Journal of Critical Library and Information Studies (JCLIS)

Professional Memberships & Affiliations

SALALM
ALISE (Association for Library and Information Science Education)
Rhode Island Library Association (RILA)
Beta Beta Epsilon, Beta Phi Mu LIS Honor Society. Madison, Wisconsin
Fembot Collective
National Women's Studies Association (NWSA)
REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking

University Service

Committee on Accreditation (2016-present)
Curriculum Committee (2016-present)
Faculty Committee, GSLIS, URI (2016-present)
Committee to Establish a Latin American/Latino Studies Minor at URI (2017- present)
Technology Committee, GSLIS, URI (2016-2017)
Working Group Around Race (2016-2017)
Rhode Island Library Association, Full Board (2016-2017)
Doctoral Student Representative, Curriculum Committee, GSLIS, UIUC (2014/2015)
Planning Committee, Inclusive Illinois. UIUC (2013)
Co-Chair, GSLIS Students of Color Student Group, UIUC (2012-2014)
Co-Chair, REFORMA Student Group. Madison, Wisconsin (2010-2012)

Prior Work Experience

Website Designer, Dept. of Gender, and Women's Studies, UIUC. (January 2012- August 2016)

- Publish headlines on current news and events for the GWS department.
- Manage social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook for event marketing and information dissemination.
- Create mixed media such as videos, posters, to promote GWS

Research Assistant, Student Affairs, GSLIS. (January 2014- August 2014)

- Wrote grants for GSLIS diversity grants.
- Researched on diversity in the LIS field. Research and disseminate information on grants and scholarships for students.
- Drafted grant materials for IMLS grant applications.

Research Assistant, LIS Access Midwest Program. (August 2012-August 2013)

- Designed website using Wordpress and Drupal.
- Coordinated Summer Institute.
- Used multimedia to promote program.

Project Assistant, LIS Access Midwest Program. (September 2011- May 2012)

- Coordinated events for diversity in the SLIS department.
- Researched and presented data on diversity in Library Science.
- Managed digital tools and multimedia technologies.

Reference Desk Intern, Madison Central Library. (May 2011- August 2011)

- Answered reference related questions in person and over phone.
- Assisted patrons in technology and Web troubleshooting.
- Developed programming for Madison's Big Read book discussion.

Info Desk Staff, Media, Education, Resources, and Information (MERIT) Library UW-Madison. (September 2010- July 2012)

- Answered reference related questions and conducted reference interviews for undergraduate and graduate students.
- Assisted patrons in software program issues and troubleshooting multimedia.
- Taught research methods and software to School of Education classes and individuals.
- Collection development of bilingual materials in Spanish with budget of \$2000.

Construction Crew Leader, Habitat for Humanity East Bay. (2009-2010)

- Taught and supervised carpentry to individual and group volunteers.
- Coordinated project management skills to manage group work.

Volunteer Coordinator, Public Counsel Law Center. (2007-2008).

- Coordinated pro-bono attorneys in representing tort cases and update on status of case.
- Assemble Immigration documents for clients and update in ProLaw Software.
- Coordinated training sessions for Pro-bono attorneys acting as Guardian Ad Litem.

Volunteer Coordinator, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles. (2006-2007)

- Assisted Habitat for Humanity with the coordination, recruitment, and retention of individual volunteers.
- Informed 20-30 volunteers bi-weekly about Habitat for Humanity.
- Maintained web user-friendly volunteer database.

Urban Community Scholars at UCLA. (2007).

- Collaborated with UCLA students of Urban Planning to research gentrification and community organizing in Los Angeles.
- Conducted qualitative interviews in Spanish on city planning and gentrification.